

John Duncan Proios
Assistant Professor
University of Chicago Department of Philosophy
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Area of Specialization: Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy

Areas of Competence: Philosophy of Life and Death, Buddhist Philosophy, Social and Political Philosophy (including Philosophy of Education, Race and Feminist Philosophy)

Employment

Assistant Professor: University of Chicago Department of Philosophy July 2021-present

Affiliated Faculty: Center for the Study of Race, Culture, and Politics; Center for Hellenic Studies

Education

Ph.D. (Philosophy) Cornell University 2021

Dissertation: *Classifying Difference and Value: The Metaphysics of Kinds and the Search for the Good in Plato's Philebus*

Committee: Rachana Kamtekar (Chair), Tad Brennan, Scott MacDonald, Julia Annas (External)

M.A. (Philosophy) University of Arizona 2017

B.A. with High Honors (Philosophy and Classical Studies) Swarthmore College 2015

Research

Journal Publications

“Plato, *Sophist* 259c7-d7: Contrary Predication and Genuine Refutation”, forthcoming in *The Classical Quarterly*

“Plato on Natural Kinds: The Promethean Method of the *Philebus*”
Apeiron: A Journal for Ancient Philosophy and Science, 2022, volume 55, no.2, 305-327

“Ethical Narratives and Oppositional Consciousness”
APA Newsletter on Feminism and Philosophy, Spring 2021, volume 20, no.3, 11-15

“The Cause of Cosmic Rotation in Aristotle's *Metaphysics* xii 6-7”
Ancient Philosophy, 2022, vol. 40, no.2, 349-367

Book Chapters

“Plato’s Scientific Feminism: Collection and Division in *Republic V*’s ‘First Wave’” (with Rachana Kamtekar), forthcoming in *Handbook of Women and Ancient Greek Philosophy*, eds. Sara Brill and Catharine McKeen, Routledge Publishing

“Division and Proto-Racialism in the *Statesman*” in *misReading Plato: Continental and Psychoanalytic Glimpses Beyond the Mask*, eds. Matthew Clemente, Bryan J. Cocchiara, and William J. Hendel, Routledge Publishing, 188-201.

Work in Progress

Edited volume, *Ancient Greek Philosophy of Race and Ethnicity*, co-editor with Patricia Marechal

A paper on pure pleasure in Plato’s *Philebus* (under review)

A paper on false pleasure in Plato’s *Philebus* (in progress)

A paper on the metaphysics of pleasure at the beginning of Plato’s *Philebus* (in progress)

Several papers on cognitive liberation in Plato’s philosophy (in progress)

Presentations *=Refereed

2022-23

“Calling Up Intelligence as Cognitive Liberation: *Republic* 523a-524b and 515c-516c”
Pacific APA, San Francisco, Colloquium*

“The Knowledge of Free People: Dialectic as Cognitive Liberation in Plato’s *Sophist*”
Center for Hellenic Studies, University of Chicago

“Freeing the Mind: Plato and the Politics of Cognitive Liberation”
Caribbean Philosophy Association, 20th meeting, *Shifting the Geography of Reason: Philosophy, Literature, and Liberation*, Michigan State University*

2021-22

“‘The Knowledge that Free People Have’: Dialectic as Cognitive Liberation in Plato’s *Sophist*”
Ancient Philosophy Society, Penn State*

“On Nature and Theory in Plato”
Franke Institute, University of Chicago

“Identity and Difference in Kind: Pleasure at the Beginning of the *Philebus*”
Theoretical Philosophy Workshop, University of Chicago

“Return to Reason: The *Philebus* on Pure Pleasure and Restoring Human Nature”
Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy Workshop, University of Chicago

“Plato’s Scientific Feminism”
Practical Philosophy Workshop, University of Chicago

“Race and Division in Plato’s *Statesman*”
Psychology and the Other Virtual Conference*

2020-21

“Collection and Division in Plato’s Feminism” (with Rachana Kamtekar)
Virtual Summer Workshop in Women & Ancient Greek Philosophy

“The Metaphysics of Kinds and Plato’s Revisionary Naturalizing Project”
Wayne State Plato Symposium

“What is Philosophical Writing?” (with Amy Ramirez)
Cornell MAP Teaching Workshop

“Why the Hedonist is No Expert: Pleasure and the Method of Division”

University of Chicago

Cornell Philosophy Department Workshop

Education as Awakening or Assimilation?

Eastern APA Teaching Hub Poster Session*

“Ethical Narratives about Class in Higher Education: A Reply to Morton”

North American Association for Philosophy & Education*

2019-2020

“Naturalizing Social Kinds the Promethean Way”

East Tennessee State University

Cornell Graduate Workshop Series

Cornell Ancient Philosophy Working Group

“The Metaphysics of Socrates’ Anti-Hedonism: *Philebus* 12c1-13d8”

Pennsylvania Circle of Ancient Philosophy*

2018-2019

“A Platonic Metaphysics for Intersectionality” (with Rachana Kamtekar)

Cornell Work in Progress Workshop

“The Good as a Power”

Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy at the Eastern APA*

“How the Method of the *Philebus* Changes”

Cornell Work in Progress Workshop

Aristotle, *Generation and Corruption* I.1 314a1-315a3

Cornell Annual Ancient Philosophy Workshop

2017-2018

“The Good as a Power”

St. Andrews Annual Graduate Conference in Ancient Philosophy*

“The House of the Good: A Special Kind of Cause in the *Philebus*”

Eastern APA, Colloquium*

Aristotle, *Eudemian Ethics* VIII, 1249a17-end

Cornell Annual Ancient Philosophy Workshop

2016-2017

“The House of the Good: A Special Kind of Cause in the *Philebus*”

U Chicago Graduate Student Ancient Philosophy Workshop*

Aristotle, *Eudemian Ethics* VII.7-9, with Jeremy Reid

Cornell Annual Ancient Philosophy Workshop

2015-2016

“Some Puzzles in Gorgias and Parmenides”

University of Arizona Classics Graduate Student Colloquium

Comments

2022-2023

Freya Möbus and Justin Vlasits, “Division and Animal Sacrifice in Plato’s Statesman”
West Coast Plato Workshop, Northern Arizona University

2021-2022

Thomas Slabon, “Plato on Learning to Be Good: Typological Character Formation in Republic II-III”

West Coast Plato Workshop, Stanford University

Thomas Slabon, “Wisdom and Vision: Re-Viewing an Overlooked Analogy in *Protrepticus X*”
Central APA, Colloquium

Philip Yaure, “‘This Multiform Composite Nationality:’ Emancipation and Empire in Frederick Douglass’ Pan-American Republic”

Social Ontologies of Oppression, Care, and Solidarity, University of Illinois Chicago

2020-21

Max Robitzsch, “The Epicurean Classification of Desires Revisited”

Eastern APA, Colloquium

2017-2018

Brennan McDavid, “Meddling in the Work of Another”

Pacific APA, Symposium

Katherine Meadows, “Teleology in *Metaphysics Θ.8*”

Virginia Tech Workshop in Ancient Greek Philosophy

Teaching

University of Chicago

Philosophy of Life and Death

Winter 2022, Spring 2023

Introduction to Philosophy of Life and Death

Summer 2022, Summer 2023

Ideology, Knowledge, and Nature in Plato and Aristotle (Seminar)

Winter 2023

Reading & Research: Plato’s *Parmenides* in Greek

Spring 2022

Plato’s *Philebus* (Seminar)

Winter 2022

Plato on Knowledge

Autumn 2021, 2022

Philosophical Perspectives (HUM Core)

Autumn 2021, 2022

Cornell University

Philosophy of Life

Spring 2021

The Ethics of Dying in Ancient Philosophy

Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Discussions of Justice: Democracy Now

Spring 2019

Introduction to Philosophy (TA)

Fall 2018, Spring 2019

Introduction to Deductive Logic (TA)

Spring 2018

Introduction to Ancient Philosophy (TA)

Fall 2017

University of Arizona

The Ethics and Economics of Wealth Creation

Summer 2017

History of Moral and Political Philosophy

Summer 2016

The Ethics and Economics of Wealth Creation (TA)

Fall 2016

Philosophy of Happiness (TA)

Fall 2015

Service

Member: Hiring Committee for Junior Search	2022-23
Member: <i>Ad Hoc</i> Committee on Graduate Professionalization and Pedagogy	2022-23
Member: Graduate Student Essay Prize Committee	2022-23
BA Supervisor, Kaden Chuang	2022-23
MA Supervisor, Jiakai Zhang	2021-22
Second Reader, BA Thesis, Ben Gerhardt	2021-22
Second Reader, BA Thesis, Benjamin Schall	2021-22
Member: Hiring Committee for Junior Search	2021-22
Reviewer, <i>The International Journal of the Platonic Tradition</i> (1x)	2021-22
Reviewer, <i>Australasian Journal of Philosophy</i> (1x)	2021-22

Grants & Awards

<i>Research Fellowship</i> (with Patricia Marechal) Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, University of Chicago	Fall 2023-Spring 2025
<i>Event Grant</i> (with Patricia Marechal) Franke Institute for the Humanities, University of Chicago	2022 (event 2023)
<i>Sage School Fellowship</i> Cornell University	2020-21
<i>Graduate School Travel Grant</i> Cornell University	2017, 2018, 2019
<i>Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and Law Fellowship</i> University of Arizona Center for the Philosophy of Freedom	2015-2017
<i>Dr. Nicholas Padis Memorial Graduate Scholarship</i> Hellenic University Club of Philadelphia	2015-2016
<i>Brand Blanshard Prize</i> Swarthmore College	2015

References

Rachana Kamtekar (Dissertation Chair)
Cornell University
Professor of Philosophy and Classics
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Tad Brennan
Cornell University
Professor of Philosophy and Classics
tad.brennan@cornell.edu

Scott MacDonald
Cornell University
Norma K. Regan Professor in Christian Studies
macdonald@cornell.edu

Julia Annas (External)

University of Arizona
Regents Professor of Philosophy
jannas@email.arizona.edu

Theo Korzhukhin (Teaching)
Johns Hopkins University
Lecturer, Philosophy
tk283@cornell.edu

Professional Association Memberships

Society for Ancient Greek Philosophy
Ancient Philosophy Society
Caribbean Philosophy Society
American Philosophical Association

Languages

English (native)
Ancient Greek (reading)
Latin (reading)
French (reading)